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News

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Wednesday, September 14, 2005 3:34 PM CDT

OK1021773 SEQUOYAH

Gore Public Works Authority

2004 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

We're very pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Quality Water Report. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Our water source is surface water from Lake Tenkiller.

This report shows our water quality and what it means. If you have any questions regarding this report, or concerning your water utility, please feel free to contact Mike Kinnear @ (918) 489-2636. You are welcome to attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings held at 7:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at the Gore Municipal Complex Building located at 8th and Main, Gore, Oklahoma.

Gore Public Works Authority routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2004. (Some of our data may be more than one year old because the state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less often than once per year.)

In the table below you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Parts per million (ppm) or
Milligrams per liter (mg/l)

Parts per billion (ppb) or
Micrograms per liter (ug/l)

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) -
picocuries per liter is a measure of
the radioactivity in water.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

Treatment Technique (TT) - (mandatory language) A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

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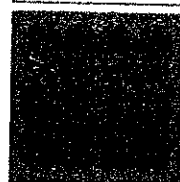
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Action Level (AL) - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The MCL is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - The MCLG is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

There are seventy-six regulated contaminants that community water systems are required to test for including microbiological, radioactive, inorganic, synthetic organic including pesticides and herbicides, and volatile organic contaminants. We are exempt from testing for synthetic organic contaminants based upon a vulnerability assessment conducted by the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality. The table below shows only those contaminants that were detected.

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TEST RESULTS

Contaminant Violation Y/N Level Detected Range Detected MCL MCLG Likely Source of Contamination

Microbiological Contaminants

1. Total Coliform Bacteria N 0 NONE (0) 1 positive 0 Naturally present in the environment

2. Fecal coliform and E.coli N 0 NONE (0) a routine sample and Human and animal fecal

repeat sample are waste

total coliform positive,

and one is also fecal

coliform or E. coli

positive

3. Turbidity (NTU) N 0 26 NTU 0.16-0.26 NTU TT 5 NTU TT <0.5 n/a Soil runoff

(maximum single measurement) NTU in 95% of

(maximum monthly level) monthly samples

Radioactive Contaminants

4. Beta/photon emitters (pCi/l) N Testing was 0 50 0 Decay of natural and man-made

done in 2003 deposits

and is good

for 5 years.

No violation

in 2003.

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5. Alpha emitters (pCi/l) N Testing was 0.15. 0 Erosion of natural deposits

done in 2003.

and is good

for 5 years.

No violation

in 2003.

6. Combined radium (pCi/l) N Testing was 0.5. 0 Erosion of natural deposits

done in 2003.

and is good

for 5 years.

No violation

in 2003.

Inorganic Contaminants

8. Arsenic (ppb) N 0.50 n/a Erosion of natural deposits;

runoff from orchards; runoff

from glass and electronics

production wastes

10. Barium (ppb) N 0.2000 2000 Discharge of drilling wastes;

discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits

14. Copper (ppm) N 0 # of samples AL-1.3 1.3 Corrosion of household

exceeded AL plumbing systems; erosion of

natural deposits; leaching from

wood preservatives

16. Fluoride (ppm) N 0.4 4 Erosion of natural deposits;

water additive which promotes

strong teeth; discharge from

fertilizer and aluminum factories

17. Lead (ppb) N 0 # of sites AL-15 0 Corrosion of household plumbing

exceeded AL systems, erosion of natural

deposits

19. Nitrate (ppm) N 0.10 10 Runoff from fertilizer use;

(as Nitrogen) leaching from septic tanks,

sewage; erosion of natural

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deposits

20. Nitrite (ppm) N 0 1 1 Runoff from fertilizer use;

(as Nitrogen) leaching from septic tanks,

sewage, erosion of natural

deposits

21. Selenium (ppb) N 0 50 50 Discharge from petroleum

and metal refineries; erosion

of natural deposits; discharge

from mines

Volatile Organic Contaminants

73. THM [Total trihalomethanes] N 96.6 38.0-96.6 100.0 By-product of drinking water

(ppb) chlorination

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We are proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water before we treat it include:

*Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.

*Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

*Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture and residential uses.

*Radioactive contaminants, which are naturally occurring.

*Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments. Thank

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you for understanding.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Please call our office if you have questions.

We at Gore Public Works Authority work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap.

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